

09/806876

2 Rec'd PCT/PTO 05 APR 2001

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of  
RESS-LOESCHKE et al.

BOX PCT

International Application  
PCT/EP 99/07679

Filed: October 13, 1999

For: A PROCESS FOR PREPARING CHIRAL CARBOXYLIC ACIDS FROM NITRILES  
USING A NITRILASE OR MICROORGANISMS WHICH COMPRISE A GENE  
FOR THE NITRILASEPRELIMINARY AMENDMENTHonorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

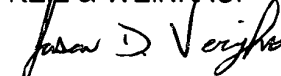
Amend the claims as shown in the attached sheets.

REMARKSThe claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependency and to put them in  
better form for U.S. filing. No new matter is included. A clean copy of the claims is attached.

Favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

KEIL &amp; WEINKAUF

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